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Susanne Guyer  
Assistant Vice President  
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September 2, 1999

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**Re: CC Docket 96-98: Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the Matter of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act of 1996**

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of Bell Atlantic, Allegiance Telecom, Intermedia Communications and Time Warner Telecom, I submit the attached letter for inclusion in the above-referenced docket.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, an original and one copy of this notice are being submitted to the Secretary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susanne Guyer".

Attachment

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List ABCDE

September 2, 1999

The Honorable William E. Kennard, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Room 8-B-201  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Susan Ness, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Room 8-B-115  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Harold W. Furchtgott-Roth, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room 8-A-302  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Michael K. Powell, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W., Room 8-A-204  
Washington, DC 20554

The Honorable Gloria Tristani, Commissioner  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Room 8-C-032  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: **CC Docket 96-98: Second Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the  
Matter of the Local Competition Provisions in the Telecommunications Act  
of 1996**

Dear Chairman Kennard and Commissioners:

Bell Atlantic, Intermedia, Allegiance and Time Warner understand that certain long distance carriers are urging the Commission to adopt unbundling rules that would allow them to substitute combinations of unbundled network elements for the special access services they purchase from incumbent carriers. The effect of such substitutions would be to reduce significantly the prices long distance carriers pay today for special access services under the Commission's access regime and to discourage competitors from investing in alternative special access facilities. These substitutions would also undermine the investments that facilities-based carriers have already made in competing facilities.

We agree that combinations of network elements should not be available to substitute for special access services carrying interexchange traffic under the standards of

section 251(d)(2). Any requirement to provide combinations of unbundled loop and transport network elements, as defined by the Commission, should be subject to the following conditions:

1. Loop/transport combinations (extended links) for DS1 level and above should be available only when the competitive local exchange carrier (CLEC) provides an integrated local/toll service to the customer and handles at least one third of the customer's local traffic. In addition, on the DS1 loop portion of the combination, at least 50 percent of the activated channels have at least 5 percent local voice traffic individually and, for the entire DS1 facility, at least 10 percent of the traffic is local voice traffic.
2. When loop/transport combinations include multiplexing (DS1 multiplexed to DS3 level), each of the individual DS1 circuits must meet the above criteria.
3. Since the purpose of loop/transport combinations is to provide a capability for a collocated CLEC to reach customers in other offices where it is not collocated, such combinations should be available only where they terminate at a collocation arrangement in the LATA. This means that loop/transport combinations should not be available for termination at other places, such as a carrier's switch or point of presence.
4. In order to ensure that carriers do not circumvent the conditions listed above, no carrier should be able to connect unbundled loops to the ILECs' special access multiplexing or transport services.

We also understand that certain long distance carriers are urging the Commission to adopt unbundling rules that would allow them to obtain preassembled combinations of all the network elements (the UNE Platform) without any restrictions. The availability of unrestricted UNE Platforms would undermine the investments that facilities-based carriers have already made and discourage further investment in local facilities.

We agree that if UNE Platforms are made available, they should be restricted to residential customers and should sunset within two years. If the Commission decides to extend the availability of UNE Platforms to business customers, they should be subject to the following restrictions:

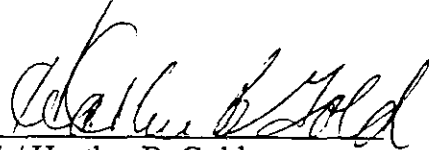
1. UNE Platforms should be available only for POTS business services. This means that UNE Platforms should not be available for other business services, such as Centrex and PBX services.
2. UNE Platforms should be available only in central offices with fewer than two facilities-based collocators.
3. UNE Platforms should not be available for more than two years.

We would be happy to address any questions you might have regarding our proposal.

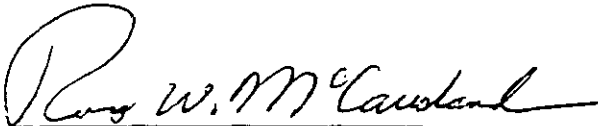
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/s/ Edward D. Young, III  
Associate General Counsel – Regulatory  
Bell Atlantic

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/s/ Heather B. Gold  
Vice President – Industry Policy  
Intermedia Communications Inc.

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/s/ Robert W. McCausland  
Vice President – Regulatory and Interconnection  
Allegiance Telecom, Inc.

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/s/ Don Shephard  
Vice President, Federal Regulatory  
Affairs  
Time Warner Telecom

cc: Ms. Kathryn Brown  
Dr. Robert Pepper  
Mr. Christopher Wright  
Ms. Dorothy Attwood  
Mr. William Bailey  
Mr. Kyle Dixon  
Ms. Linda Kinney  
Ms. Sarah Whitesell  
Mr. Larry Strickling  
Mr. Robert Atkinson  
Ms. Carol Matthey  
Mr. Jake Jennings  
Ms. Jane Jackson

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/s/ Edward D. Young, III  
Senior Vice President and Deputy  
General Counsel  
Bell Atlantic

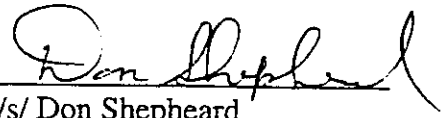
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/s/ Heather B. Gold  
Vice President – Industry Policy  
Intermedia Communications Inc.

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